

Hammer: Report outdated

Post Knesset Correspondent
Education Minister Zevulun Hammer noted yesterday that the Minkowich research project studying achievement in elementary schools, including a comparison of religious schools contained material which was four years old and did not allow for subsequent changes and subsequent enrichment programmes conducted in the school systems.

Replying to three motions for the Knesset agenda which were referred to Committee, Hammer said the media oversimplified the results of the research on integration and achievement in a manner which caused distortion. The researchers themselves wrote that a series of experimental studies would have to be made, before a satisfactory probe could be obtained.

He promised he would work to get better teachers for schools in disadvantaged areas, so that the integration process could be speeded up and the educational gap closed faster.

(Leader, page 8)

Pupil who gave paper to MK gets immunity Police launch broad probe of matric leaks

By MARSHA POMERANTZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter
The pupil who bought a pre-examination copy of the matriculation mathematics questionnaire and handed it over to Knesset Member Charlie Biton, was yesterday granted immunity from prosecution. The pupil will be asked how he came by the exam paper, for which he says he paid IL4,500.

Jerusalem police yesterday began investigating scores of people involved in the preparation and handling of matriculation examinations, after an official complaint from the Ministry of Education that a mathematics examination scheduled for next Monday had been stolen.

The opening of the investigation followed a revelation by Biton on TV Tuesday night that the exam and others were being sold for thousands of pounds on the black market.

(In an all-night effort the examination department of the ministry, under Dan Hass, began preparing an alternate exam in

maths which will be ready by Monday.)

In addition to promising full cooperation with police, Education Minister Zevulun Hammer yesterday asked director-general Eliezer Shmueli to set up a team to review the entire process of writing, printing and distributing exams, and submit conclusions within a month.

Mordechai Wertheimer, adviser to the Civil Service Commissioner, will head the committee, according to the ministry spokesman.

State Comptroller Yitzhak Nebenzahl also instructed his staff yesterday to begin an investigation of procedures for preparing examination questionnaires.

Knesset Member Meir Cohen (Lud) yesterday wrote to Hammer urging that director-general Shmueli be dismissed, or resign, because he allegedly knew about exam papers being copied last year and was responsible for not taking preventive measures this year.

Shmueli stressed last night that (Continued on page 2, col. 7)

Hussein to Cairo for talks on M.E. role

By ANAN SAFADI
Post Middle East Editor
Jordan's King Hussein is planning to go to Egypt within the next 24 hours for crucial talks on his future role in the Middle East peace negotiations currently being pressed by the U.S.

Hussein, who met last week with Syrian President Hafez Assad, is expected to examine with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat the prospects of his reinstatement as the representative of the West Bank in future Middle East deliberations.

For some time Sadat has been seeking Palestinian Liberation Organization agreement for a Jordanian delegation incorporating independent Palestinian figures, to participate in the negotiations.

Sadat has two objectives: first, to avoid the thorny issue of the PLO Middle East radical stance, and second, to thwart the impression that he is abrogating a 1974 Rabat summit decision which acknowledged the PLO as the "sole" representative of the Palestinians, including those in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Hussein's ultimate standing appears to depend heavily on the forthcoming Washington talks between U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Premier Menachem Begin, particularly on the latter's conception of the future of the West Bank, the U.S.-advocated "Palestinian homeland," and the framework of peace negotiations and the set-up of the parties involved.

CARTER APPROVED M.E. STATEMENT U.S. officials trading blame over 'blunder'

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent
WASHINGTON — State Department and White House officials are privately blaming each other for the latest U.S. policy statement on the Middle East, now regarded here as having been a diplomatic blunder of major proportions. The decision to release the statement was made by President Carter, sources here said.

In its last editorial yesterday, even "The New York Times" lashed out against "Impatient Washington hands" who "crank out policy statements." The editorial, one of the most favourable to Israel that the newspaper has published in a long time, was especially critical of the current conduct of U.S. policy in the Middle East, both by President Carter and the State Department.

"It is the job of diplomats to settle conflict, to compromise for the

success of negotiation, to stay on good terms with all," it asserted. "It is the job of a president to lead toward an objective, with or without successful negotiation."

"The American objective in the Middle East is not a 'settlement,' this year or ever — it is a peace that can last — and, peace or war, a secure Israel."

While the State Department denies in public that the U.S. erred by having its public statement calling for Israel territorial withdrawal on all three fronts, several American officials are privately conceding it was a mistake to have done so.

Officials here now believe that the statement should probably have been conveyed privately to Israel, through normal diplomatic channels. "The same point could have been made, without arousing everyone," one U.S. source said.

But a decision was made over the weekend at the highest levels in the U.S. government to go public. The feeling was, according to informed sources, that it was better to have a "blap" with Israel now rather than later.

The Americans, having been angered by statements last week made by Prime Minister Begin and Foreign Minister Dayan, felt a public U.S. reaction would serve as the most effective restraining force on such further statements.

In addition to the concern over the Begin/Dayan statements, the decision was also stimulated by the very critical speech delivered on Monday — but released over the weekend to the press — by Republican Sen. Jacob Javits.

That speech, which went after the administration's policies point-by-point, was seen by the White House as the start of a pro-Israel "campaign" against the president, and they wanted it stopped.

But officials here now concede they did not expect the statement to arouse such an uproar both in Israel and among Israeli supporters here. They insist that there was nothing in the statement intended to change U.S. policy as outlined earlier by President Carter and Vice-President Mondale. The purpose of the statement, the officials add, was merely to clarify U.S. positions especially on the need for Israel to negotiate territorial withdrawals from Sinai, the Golan Heights, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

REPORT ON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SYSTEM

Them that needs, don't get

MARSHA POMERANTZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter
Those who need the most help in the elementary school system often get the least, despite efforts by the Education Ministry to channel resources to the "underprivileged."

This emerges from the research on academic achievement in elementary schools by Prof. Avraham Minkowich and Drs. D. Davis and Y. Bashi, published this week by the Ministry of Education. The field work for the report was done in May 1973, among some 17,000 pupils in 98 schools.

The findings were processed to determine the relationship between achievement and variables which describe the student (including his self-image), his home (including the communal origin of his parents and living conditions), and his school (services available, special equipment, experience and attitudes of teachers and headmaster).

The disadvantaged — "fused tipnash" — are defined by the ministry according to criteria of parents' education, income, and number of persons in the family. Some 95 per cent of such pupils are from Asian or North African background.

The investigators found that schools with a high percentage of disadvantaged students get a larger slice of the budget, to hire additional staff. However, those who benefit from this are often the middle-class students in the same school.

The emphasis on academics in the Long School Day project, they found, did not necessarily help the students in their academic achievement, and deprived them of an opportunity for general social and cultural activities. Where this project did provide such activities, they were more limited than those available in "better" schools.

Among the services sorely lacking in the disadvantaged schools are psychological and counselling services, though these services are common in better schools.

This fact, the report states, is "a symptom of the general unfortunate phenomenon" in which various projects of the Education Ministry, academic institutions or individual initiatives originally designed for the child "in need of nurturing" often operate mainly in schools for middle-class students.

Other findings regarding lower-class schools: the teachers generally have less experience and less opportunity for in-service training than their colleagues at better schools. Administrators tend to spend more time on daily problems in administration than on contact with parents, teachers, and students.

Though the official budget for poor schools is larger, middle-class schools have the advantage of parents' contributions for general upkeep or special projects. Teachers and administrators in better schools also tend to get higher pay.

Not surprisingly, the investigators found a high correlation between the quality of the school and the quality of the student's achievement. But this, like all of the research findings, is too complex to allow for simple conclusions.

Achievement on tests designed by the researchers in accordance with minimum and maximum demands of the curriculum was higher for second-generation Israelis than for first-generation, either from Oriental countries or the West. But in general, disregarding generation, children of Western backgrounds did better than their counterparts of Asian and African descent.

One of the findings that arouses concern is that even among the "good" students, achievement in many (Continued on page 2, col. 2)

U.S. recites peace vows by Arabs

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
WASHINGTON — The U.S. declared yesterday that Egypt, Syria and Jordan have publicly indicated a willingness to make peace with Israel.

On Tuesday, Assistant Secretary of State Alfred Atherton made such an assertion but had not cited specifics. At the press briefing later in the day, the spokesman was pressed to point to specific examples of the Arab states' willingness to make peace with Israel. He said that a response would be prepared.

Yesterday, the spokesman issued a lengthy statement referring to Egypt, Jordanian and Syrian indications of peaceful intentions.

"In the Sinai agreement of September 1975," he said, "the Egyptian and Israeli governments commit themselves to (Continued on page 4, col. 2)

Dinitz returns, to brief Cabinet on ties with U.S.

Post Diplomatic Correspondent
Ambassador to Washington Simcha Dinitz arrived in Jerusalem yesterday and will report to Sunday's cabinet meeting on recent developments in American relations with Israel.

Dinitz will participate in the preparation of Prime Minister Menachem Begin's forthcoming visit to Washington. Following his arrival, he met with Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan.

The U.S. administration has not set any conditions for Begin's visit, Dinitz said upon his arrival. Begin will be received as a welcome visitor.

In reference to the recent statement by the State Department

spokesman, Dinitz said that the known differences between Israel and the U.S. continued in force and that they would constitute one of the subjects which will be discussed during Begin's visit.

"If the Americans had any misunderstanding concerning Israel's readiness to enter negotiations with the Arabs without any prior conditions, they have now been dispelled by Mr. Begin's statement and that of the Foreign Ministry," he said.

Regarding his own future, Dinitz told reporters: "I will remain in the U.S. until I am told to return home. I don't know how long that will be."

Dinitz will be returning to Washington at the end of next week.

Show of support for Carter's Mideast policy

WASHINGTON — Nine U.S. Senators — including Hubert Humphrey and Abraham Ribicoff — last night wrote to President Jimmy Carter to assure him that he had "strong support in the Senate" for his effort to "help Israel and the Arab nations secure a genuine and lasting peace."

But the letter, which was the initiative of the administration, did not call for a return to the 1967 borders with only minor adjustments or for a Palestinian homeland — two points which the president has suggested and which have aroused American friends of Israel.

The letter stressed the need for the U.S. to continue its "historical commitment" to assure the security of Israel, and to avoid the use of U.S. "military aid as a means of pressure on Israel." The letter was also signed by Edward Kennedy, Daniel Inouye, John Sparkman, Alan Cranston, Gaylord Nelson, Edmund Muskie and Robert Byrd.

"We wrote to you because the Senate will play a major part in decisions affecting the Middle East in the time ahead, and like any President, you will need strong support in your efforts to contribute to the cause of peace in the Middle East," the letter said.

Alignment 56%, Likud 28.5% in final tally

Post Political Reporter
EL AVIV. — The official results of the Knesset elections, to be published today, will give the Alignment 56 per cent of the votes compared with 28.5 per cent for the Likud, Knesset election committee member Natall Ushpis said yesterday.

The Knesset completed counting votes and a computer is today expected to produce the final results for the 12,000 votes cast for the six which did not pass the one per cent barrier making them eligible to participate in the distribution of seats.

The count of the votes cast in the 21 election districts (results of the last elections are given in brackets): Alignment 56.4 (58.3), Likud 28.2 (22.7), Democratic Movement for Change 8.04 (new), Democratic Front for Peace and Equality (formerly Rakah) 2.8 (4), Independent Liberal Party and Citizens Rights Movement 1.25 (ILP on 6.96 in the last election, the CRP did not run), Religious Workers 1.08 (3), and Sholim (formerly Moked v Meri) 1.01 (2.5).

Some 66 per cent of the 900,000 voters exercised their franchise.

A study based on public opinion polls revealed that 18 per cent of the Knesset members who voted Likud in the Knesset elections supported Alignment in the subsequent Knesset elections, while another 23 per cent of the Likud supporters remained in the Knesset elections.



Former U.S. Senator Eugene McCarthy and former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Joseph Sisco chat during break in symposium on the role of the intellectual in politics, at the Van Leer Institute in Jerusalem yesterday.

SYMPOSIUM ON INTELLECTUALS IN POLITICS 'K's impact on history dubious'

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH
Jerusalem Post Reporter
The impact of former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger on history seems ever more dubious as time goes on, according to prominent American historian Theodore Draper.

"Little of his handwork remains," Draper said yesterday at the opening of a symposium on "Intellectuals in politics" at the Van Leer Institute in Jerusalem.

Noting the tributes to his power lavished upon Kissinger by authors and journalists during his tenure as America's chief foreign-policy formulator, Draper said, "I am inclined to believe that Kissinger's power over anything else... Before former President Nixon was undone by Watergate, he said, Kissinger had theories but did not put them into practice. When he took over the foreign policy reins more firmly, Draper said, Kissinger devised theories to suit his practice.

"How much history was shaped by Kissinger becomes more and more dubious... Kissinger was successful in shaping his history, not history," said Draper, who is associated with the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton University.

Reviewing the political influence of intellectuals in American history, Draper concluded that they are only (Continued on page 4, col. 2)

as important as politicians want them to be. "Politics demand 55-45 decisions. For intellectuals such decisions are agonizing." The intellectual prefers to wait for more evidence in such cases while the politician decides. Ghost writing may be the ultimate expression of intellectual involvement in politics, Draper said, noting that it involved "words without responsibility."

Former U.S. Senator Eugene J. McCarthy warned of the dangers to intellectuals contemplating their beliefs while attempting to exert an influence on practical politics.

The former director-general of the Foreign Ministry, Prof. Shlomo Avineri, quoted from Sir Thomas More on whether intellectuals should join the Council of Princes. On the one hand they might make a contribution, but on the other they might find themselves the court jester.

This 16th Century musing applied to the Democratic Movement for Change, Avineri said, in its current deliberations over whether to join the Likud government.

Referring to intellectuals in the Arab world, Avineri said they did not play the role of critics of society traditionally played by intellectuals in the Western world.

The symposium was organized by the Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Meshel accepts Begin's call for 'social contract'

Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Histadrut Secretary-General Yerubam Meshel jumped up yesterday evening in the middle of a speech by Menachem Begin and said, "Mr. Prime Minister, I accept your invitation."

The invitation extended by Begin, who was addressing the annual meeting of the Manufacturers Association at a gala dinner at the Hilton, was for the Histadrut and the employers to join the government in immediate negotiations on a "social contract" aimed at bringing about stability in the economy and, especially, at crushing inflation.

Begin dwelt at length on the subject of inflation, pointing out that he believed it had helped, even if indirectly, in launching World War II and killing six million Jews, for it had destroyed the middle class in Germany, demoralized the workers, and paved the way for the rise of Hitlerism.

He also came out strongly for a programme of "social justice without socialism," which meant doing away with the slums and seeing that there was no unemployment, either as a political weapon or as the result of an economic recession.



New man at the helm... Menachem Begin's first days as Prime Minister are described by Asher Wallfisch.

Washington Impressions. Anan Safadi tells of his first visit to the city of diplomacy.

A case of theft. David Krivine looks at the current boom in burglaries.

Inside Aqaba with Robert D. Kaplan.

Actress Anne Bancroft talks about her role as Golda's stage double.

Two pages of pictures by Swiss photographers. A Negev Beduin settles down with two Volvos and two TV sets. The Weekend Dry Bones.

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Vance praises Israel for taking Vietnamese

WASHINGTON. — Secretary of State Cyrus Vance last night praised Israel for accepting 66 Vietnamese refugees who had been stranded on the high seas.

In a speech for delivery in New York, Vance also hailed Thailand, France, Canada and Australia for taking in South Vietnamese refugees.

Saudis want UN Lebanon force

BEIRUT (UPI). — Saudi Arabia is in favour of stationing UN forces along the Lebanese-Israeli border, the Phalangist Party newspaper "Al-Amal" said yesterday.

The Saudi government will also launch a new diplomatic offensive to ease Lebanon's political crisis, and help regulate Palestinian-Lebanese relations, the newspaper said.

Alla gains another half point

DORTMUND, West Germany, June (Reuter). — Alla Kushnir drew her sixth game against Irina Levitina of the Soviet Union here yesterday and the Israeli now needs only half point to enter the quarter-final for the women's world chess championship.

Mrs Kushnir leads by five points to one in the 10-game series.

This and more in Friday's

THE JERUSALEM POST MAGAZINE

Sharon plays down demographic fears

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon said yesterday that the new government hopes to carry out a broader settlement programme than had been planned by the previous Labour administration. He did not elaborate.

Sharon was speaking at a Jewish Agency Assembly workshop on settlement problems. The hawkish minister said he foresaw no friction with the head of the Agency Settlement Department, Raanan Weitz, whose political views are relatively Jewish.

"Cooperation (between the Agriculture Ministry and Settlement Department) will be even better than it was before," he said.

Asked why he did not place priority on settlement of Galilee in view of the demographic problem there, in the lead of settlement beyond the green line, Sharon suggested that demographic fears were misleading.

The Jewish-Arab ratio in the historic boundaries of Eretz Yisrael, he said, had changed from 58,000 Jews and 400,000 Arabs at the time of the Balfour Declaration in 1917 to three million Jews and 1.5 million Arabs today, including the administered territories.

In the 10 years since the Six Day War, he said, the Jewish numerical superiority had increased by 1.5 per cent, mostly because of immigration.

A project aimed at attracting immigration is New Ma'alot, a proposal for a suburb of the Galilee development town whose details were revealed yesterday by Weitz. Described by him as a new form of urban settlement, the suburb will cater to settlement by groups rather than individuals. It will aim both at potential immigrants abroad who wish to immigrate as a group as well as to Israelis who form settlement nuclei.

Weitz said the proposal, which will be presented to the government next week for its consideration, is part of the effort to settle the Western Galilee hills. Much of the employment will be based on science-based industries either within the new settlement itself or at the regional industrial centre being created at Tefen, four kilometres away. He said the first thousand families could be living in the new community within four years of the project's launching.

The planning concept is based on the experience of the Settlement Department in rural developments which has shown that immigrant absorption is more successful when settlements are populated by culturally homogeneous groups. The new suburb will be based on "community groups" of 150-250 families with similar cultural or professional background. Integration with other groups would be on the broader community level.

Porter caught pilfering baggage as travellers report thefts

Jerusalem Post Staff

BEN-GURION AIRPORT. — A porter was caught red-handed yesterday stealing a wallet from a passenger's suitcase. The baggage handler was observed in the act of theft by a policeman.

The porter admitted to the theft after lengthy questioning by the authorities, and the wallet was returned to its owner. The porter will be brought before a magistrate's court for remand, police said.

A Jerusalem Post staff member who returned with El Al's flight 385 from Frankfurt on Tuesday evening

reported that passengers have notified police that their suitcases were broken into here.

The passengers were kept waiting when the flow of luggage being unloaded from their flight was suddenly interrupted for some 40 minutes, right at the luggage entrance to the arrivals hall, until they opened their luggage at home that some of the passengers discovered that their toilet kits and jewel boxes had been opened and expertly assayed, for only highly valuable pieces were missing.



The second non-resident Ambassador from Barbados, Cecil B. Williams, presented his credentials to President Rabin on Tuesday. Mr. and Mrs. Williams are on their first visit to Israel. Israel is the only Middle East country with which Barbados, a small Caribbean island with a population of 250,000, has diplomatic relations.

Interviewed after a dinner given in his honour by the Foreign Ministry on Tuesday evening, Williams noted that there is room for increasing ties between the two countries, especially through cooperation programmes.

Bar-Ilan, country's most crowded university, running out of space

By SHOSHANA LESSEK
Jerusalem Post Reporter

RAMAT GAN. — Classroom space is in such short supply at Bar-Ilan University here that normal operation is liable to be impaired within two years if nothing is done, university director-general Mattityahu Adler warned yesterday in his annual report to the board of directors.

He cited State Comptroller's figures for 1976 showing that The Hebrew University has 23.7 sq. metres of space per student and Tel Aviv 15.8, while Bar-Ilan has only 8.9. Also, while space per student had increased since 1970 by nine sq. metres at The Hebrew University and by 5.1 at Tel Aviv, Bar-Ilan's increase has only been 3.3 per head.

The new multi-purpose building now under construction on the Bar-Ilan campus will not provide enough space to cope with the increasing number of students, Adler added.

With the university's financial needs even more pressing this year, the trustees yesterday called on the authorities to take into consideration Bar-Ilan's role as a religious univer-

sity when allocating funds. The extra Jewish-study programme was an added financial burden on the university, he said.

The board is also to appoint a committee to explore possible programmes and contributions Bar-Ilan might make in children's education in "all state schools." This includes possible advice on the most effective methods of introducing an appreciation of Jewish spiritual and moral values and a religious approach to Bible and Talmud studies throughout the educational network.

Education Minister Zevulun Hammer is a member of the board. University sources commented yesterday that his appointment provides an historic opportunity for Bar-Ilan to make its contribution in education.

Re-elected to the board yesterday were chairman Phillip Stollman and Dr. Zerah Wahrhaftig, MK, chairman of the Executive Council. New members elected were Rabbi Abraham Eliazar, Moshe Nisim, MK, and Abraham Spiegel, of Los Angeles.

Israel bridge teams get ready for two tourneys next month

By GEORGE LEVINKEW
Post Bridge Writer

This year for the first time ever, the Maccabiah includes Bridge Championships. Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Britain, Holland, Italy, Mexico, Peru, South Africa, Venezuela, Sweden, and the U.S. will all be represented in the tournament which runs from July 12-19.

Members of Israel's open team for the Maccabiah are Schwartz, Stampf, Hochstadt-Levi and Birman-Kaufman. The women's team, one of four, include Chajczyk-Melech, Brechner-De Leeuw and Ilan-Adelman. Meltzer will be the non-playing captain and Baron, assistant captain.

Some of the international bridge stars expected to play are Sammy Kehela from Canada; Billy Eisenberg and Eddie Kantor from the U.S.; Leon Tintner and Leon Yelloune from France; Rosenberg and Shenkin, Jr. from Britain; Chemla and Lebel from France; and Rita Jacobson from South Africa.

The tournament will take place in the B'nai B'rith halls in Tel Aviv. There will be two sessions daily at 2:30 p.m. and at 9:00 p.m. Single sessions only will be played on July 12 at 10 a.m., July 15 at 2:30, and July 16 at 9:00. kibitzers can watch at the tables or from a theatre where a view graph will display the bridge hands. Well-known commentators will explain the bidding and the play.



A police sapper examines a car parked outside the U.S. consulate in Jerusalem's Rehov Agnon yesterday. The car aroused suspicion because of the gas cylinder on its roof and because it had West Bank number plates. But it turned out to be a false alarm and the owner turned up while the examination was taking place. Photographer Eli Harari, who took the picture with a telephoto lens from the safety barrier put up by the police, told

The Jerusalem Post that police tried to force him to give up his film, although he showed them his press card. He said a policeman struck him when he refused and he was told he was under arrest and taken to the police spokesman at the Russian Compound station, and later released. The spokesman told The Post Harari had not complained of being struck.

Democrats ignore ZOA convention in Jerusalem

Jerusalem Post Staff

TEL AVIV. — The U.S. Democratic Party has for the first time not responded to an invitation to send a senior spokesman to address the national convention of the Zionist Organization of America — which meets next week in Jerusalem — a ZOA spokesman said yesterday.

President Carter, himself a Democrat, is expected to send a message, which will be read at the opening session of the group's 80th convention next Thursday at Binyanei Ha'Ooma.

The Republican party will be represented by Senator Robert J. Dole who was former President Ford's running mate in the U.S. national elections last November. Dole will be a principal speaker at the opening session which will also hear prime Minister Menachem Begin and Dr. Joseph Sternstein, ZOA president.

All previous ZOA conventions have been attended by representatives of both the Democratic and Republican parties. Vice President Walter Mondale was the Democratic speaker last year.

The ZOA considers itself bipartisan, and some members have expressed regret that no Democrat will be at their meeting.

'U.S. Jews should set up their own information dept.'

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Leonard Strelitz, the new general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, said yesterday the American Jewish community should establish an independent "information department" to present Israel's true image and win the support of public opinion.

Strelitz stated that aliya — necessary to bolster the country's population — is partly the responsibility of American Jewish leadership.

At a meeting of the Editors Committee in Tel Aviv, Strelitz said something must be done to battle the Arabs' public relations effort in the U.S.

American Jewry's "initial hostile opinion of Begin, fostered by the U.S. media, has dissipated," he said. After meeting Prime Minister Menachem Begin, he continued, "I am sure that he will tread carefully when he meets President Carter in Washington."

The general chairman addressed the Jewish Agency Assembly last night.

Vizhnitzer Rebbe flies to Hassidic rally

BEN-GURION AIRPORT (Itim). — Hundreds of excited hassidim took leave of their rebbe, Rabbi Moshe Hager, head of the Vizhnitz clan, here yesterday as he left for Switzerland to attend a rally of members of the clan from America and Europe.

Hundreds of U.S. hassidim have hired an aircraft to meet their rebbe.

Alignment seeks challenger to Lahat Dispute in Likud over local elections date

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The date of the next municipal elections, which are due next year, is again uncertain because of differences between Likud factions on when it is most expedient to schedule polling day.

At the same time, the prospect of the next showdown at the polls is already creating tensions within the Alignment branch here. A general sparring for position is already evident.

The local elections were initially scheduled along with the Knesset elections this autumn. When the Knesset elections were advanced to May 17, it was decided not to hold the local elections at the same time. Instead, they were postponed by the Eighth Knesset, to between May 8 and November 8, 1978.

The Liberal faction of the Likud, however, has been urging that the Likud move to amend the legislation and set the new election date in January, 1978. The arguments voiced deal mainly with partisan advantages of the earlier date. The Liberals argue that the Likud is "on a winning streak" and a long wait would result in a loss of momentum.

This view is not shared by the Liberals' Herut partners who see no danger in waiting, and claim that a Knesset Law should not be amended so glibly. The Herut faction prefers the earliest possible date allowed — May 8.

According to the Liberals' reasoning, an earlier date would be particularly more advantageous to the Likud in Tel Aviv, where the incumbent is Liberal Shlomo Lahat. As they see it, Tel Aviv would be the big political prize in the campaign, especially as the Alignment is likely to do all within its power to show that it is still a viable political force, even outside the Histadrut.

Of the three large cities, only Tel Aviv is not controlled by Labour. The Alignment, however, is far from organized for a campaign. No candidate to oppose Lahat is even in

sight. Therefore, the Liberals reason, the earlier the polling day, the less time the Alignment will have to organize.

Alignment circles have unofficially confirmed to The Jerusalem Post that this is also how they see the situation and why they support as late a date as possible for the municipal elections.

When it was still thought that the local and Knesset elections might be held simultaneously, a specially appointed Alignment committee held feverish and fruitless consultations to recruit a formidable opponent for the popular Lahat. But none could be found, because all the party's voters were competing for Knesset seats and promises of ministerial appointments. They also felt that the battle against Lahat was hopeless.

Now, however, Alignment local faction circles say, the party should have less trouble in finding a powerful challenger for Lahat — primarily because "there are so many unemployed Labour public figures now." It is also believed that the Alignment might be on the rebound after the Knesset defeat.

Groups within the Labour City Hall faction are already sparring for power. The list is now without a head as the newly-elected Knesset member, Elyahu Speizer, has resigned his council seat. The new councillor is to be Yehuda Kadlan, but the trouble in the party now is who will head the municipal opposition.

The number two man on the Alignment side in the city council is veteran councillor Shraga Kantor, who says that it is natural that he would succeed Speizer. But younger councillors Nahum Raz and Nathan Wallach are challenging Kantor, contending that it is time the Alignment projected a younger, more vigorous image.

It is clear to all sides in the dispute that the winner of this internal party battle will not head the Alignment election ticket. Top billing is certain to go to the biggest vote-getter the party can enlist.

Kupat Holim suing Yadlin

TEL AVIV (Itim).

The Histadrut's Kupat Holim sick fund yesterday sued Asher Yadlin in the District Court here for IL24,000 in bribes he took while he was Kupat Holim's chairman.

Yadlin, who is now serving a five-year sentence for bribe taking and tax evasion, has 10 days to file an answer, as Kupat Holim is seeking summary judgment.

Kupat Holim, relying on Yadlin admissions in the trial which ended in February, is demanding return of IL24,000 Yadlin received from attorney Haim Goshen during 1973-76, when Goshen was retained by Kupat Holim.

IL20,000 Yadlin received late in 1973 from his friend, real-estate broker Hava Erlichman, for information about a Kupat Holim land purchase near Beilinson Hospital in Petah Tikva;

IL7,500 he received from Miss Erlichman in return for information about another purchase, near a hospital in Ra'anana;

and IL5,800 he got from Erlichman for information about a purchase next to Netanya's Four Seasons Hotel.

The sick fund said it had gone to court because Yadlin (who was also fined IL250,000) had not answered its earlier demands for restitution.

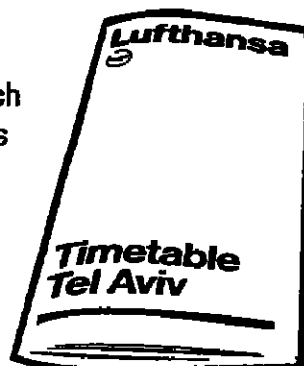
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Lufthansa



Opec 9 annul oil price hike due tomorrow

Jerusalem Post Staff and agencies

Nine members of the Organization of Oil Exporting Countries (Opec) yesterday decided to forgo a five-per-cent hike in the price of crude oil which would have been effective tomorrow. The statement, issued by the Vienna-based headquarters of the 13-state organization, was signed

Bahrain bars base rights to U.S. fleet

BEIRUT (UPI). — The government of Bahrain has cancelled an agreement with the U.S. which had granted the American fleet base rights to use the installations of the Jufair military base, the Qatari news agency said yesterday.

The agreement was signed between the Gulf state and Washington in December, 1971, four months after Bahrain gained its independence from Britain.

Despite the abolition of the special "base rights" agreement, ships of the U.S. Navy will continue using the facilities "in the same way they drop anchor at other world ports and harbours," the agency said, quoting a statement by a foreign ministry official.

"The governments of Bahrain and the United States have agreed to terminate the agreement as of June 30," the agency said.

Opposition to the "base rights" agreement first appeared after the 1973 Yom Kippur War. The government of Bahrain at the time decided to cancel the agreement, but later re-negotiated the accord.

by Iran, Venezuela, Kuwait, Nigeria, Qatar, Algeria, Ecuador, Gabon and Indonesia.

The move, which will save the West millions, was believed to be aimed mainly at settling a six-month-old rift between the nine countries and Saudi Arabia. The Saudis virtually disassociated themselves from Opec last December when they (and the United Arab Emirates) refused to go along with a two-tier Opec price increase — a 10-per-cent boost that went into effect last January and a five-per-cent increase set for July 1. It is the second boost that the nine Opec members have now decided to forgo.

Saudi Arabia and the UAE had at the time decided to increase their price by only five per cent. There was speculation the two countries would then boost the price of their oil by another five per cent, to arrive at a new unified price of \$12.70 a barrel. Saudi Arabia is Opec's top oil producer, with an output reaching over seven million barrels a day. It is followed by Iran, at 5.4 million barrels, and Venezuela, at 2.3 million.

The Opec oil ministers have a meeting scheduled in Stockholm on July 14. The decision to drop tomorrow's planned increase was announced in the Austrian capital in a terse statement which said the move was taken "in the interest of unity and solidarity of Opec."

The statement omitted to mention Iraq and Libya, the remaining two Opec members, who have indicated they might go it alone and carry out the second five-per-cent hike scheduled for tomorrow. Both countries are in the upper brackets of Opec producers, with Iraq's output estimated at 2,300,000 barrels a day and Libya's at 1,400,000.

Qatari commandos foil Lebanese hijacker

DOHA, Qatar (Reuters). — A 24-year-old Lebanese, armed with a pistol and two hand grenades, hijacked a Gulf Air VC-10 airliner after take-off from neighbouring Dubai but was seized by a commando unit when the plane landed here yesterday.

A Qatari military official, announcing this, named the hijacker as Samir Mohamed Hassan Sharara from Bint Jbeil, in southern Lebanon. Sharara later told reporters he hijacked the airliner to attract the attention of Arab countries to the deteriorating situation in southern Lebanon.

He said they "do not care enough about what is happening" there. South Lebanon has been the scene of armed clashes between Palestinians terrorists and the Lebanese left on

one hand and the Lebanese Christians on the other. The plane's British pilot, Captain Tony Mitchell, said in a telephone interview with Reuters that he understood the hijacker had a personal problem and wanted to meet the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani.

According to airport officials, however, the hijacker had demanded a ransom of 500,000 Qatari riyals (IL2m.) in exchange for the safe release of the passengers and crew. The official Qatar news agency said Crown Prince and Defence Minister Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, personally supervised the arrest of the hijacker by a unit of army commandos.

The plane left London with 30 passengers and a crew of nine, and 25 more passengers got on at Dubai.

Egyptian student to prison as spy

CAIRO (Reuters). — A 17-year-old Egyptian student was sentenced to 10 years hard labour yesterday on charges of spying for Israel. The prosecution told a juvenile court that Khaled Mohammed Wahid contacted the Israeli Embassy in Rome last year during a visit to Italy and offered his services for payment.

The prosecution said he was recruited by the Israeli intelligence and was given £130. He was arrested shortly after his

return to Cairo last January and confessed, the prosecution said during the trial. The prosecution had asked for the death sentence.

JET CRASH. — An Iranian Air Force F-4 Phantom jet fighter crashed yesterday on the military runway of Tehran's Mehrabad International Airport, killing the two pilots aboard and setting fire to air force installations.



TALK! — U.S. Army Captain Paul Pittman (squatting) questions a "prisoner" (in water-filled hole) during recent prisoner-of-war training course at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. (AP radiophoto)

Oldest fire user's remains uncovered in Greek cave

ATHENS (Reuters). — A man's skeleton calculated to be 700,000 years old, the oldest ever found in Europe, has been uncovered in a cave in Northern Greece. The most ancient traces of fire were also discovered in the cave, according to a Greek archaeologist.

Dr. Aris Poulianos told reporters on Tuesday that 17 years of work had gone into the discovery of the "Petralona Man."

He added that traces of burned bones and ashes in hearths at all cultural levels in the Petralona Caves south of Salonika, where the skeleton was found, left no doubt that the man was a user of fire.

"Thus we could say that we have at the Petralona Cave the oldest traces of fire used by man known from any excavation up to today," Dr. Poulianos said.

The previous oldest find in Europe was the "Heidelberg Man," discovered near the West German city of the same name in 1907 and variously estimated at between 300,000 and 450,000 years old.

The Petralona Man was right-handed and probably had articulate speech, Poulianos said.

The cave was discovered by villagers in 1958, after having been sealed for about 500,000 years. "Part of the skeleton of the Petralona Man crumbled to dust when the scientists took it into the outside air," Dr. Poulianos said.

"But the skull itself was preserved by stalagmites," he said.

Dr. Poulianos added that a series of uranium thorium tests and electron spin resonance dating — a new technique involving measuring the damage caused by naturally occurring radiation — confirmed the date of the skull at 700,000 years plus or minus 10,000 years.

Jo'burg black fined for elevator kiss

JOHANNESBURG (AP). — A young black man was fined 200 rand (about IL2,200) or 200 days in jail in Johannesburg yesterday for kissing a white woman on the cheek in an elevator.

"My dignity was injured because he was a stranger to me and black," the woman, Amour Loren, told the court. The races are officially segregated under South Africa's policy of apartheid. Interracial sex relations are outlawed.

The defendant, Christostome Magubane, denied kissing Miss Loren and said she had jabbed him with her elbow in the elevator in Johannesburg's central post office. He testified that he asked her what

was wrong and the young woman called him a "Kaffir" — a derogatory South African term for blacks — and said he stank.

Magubane said she left the elevator after he suggested she should go back to school to learn manners.

Miss Loren testified that Magubane leaned against her outside the elevator and then stood next to her in the elevator. She said she asked him to get out, but he kissed her on the cheek and said "you are married to me."

Miss Loren said she was so shocked she left the elevator on the third floor.

U.S. recites

(Continued from page 1) reaching a final negotiated peace settlement. He referred specifically to articles one and eight of that accord, including one section which said "the parties shall continue their efforts to negotiate a final peace agreement within the framework of the Geneva conference in accordance with Security Council Resolution 338."

The spokesman referred to the Israel-Syrian disengagement of forces agreement to point to Syria's peaceful intentions. "This agreement is not a peace agreement," the 1974 document said. "It is a step toward a just and durable peace on the basis of Security Council Resolution 338, dated October 22, 1973."

"In recent months," the spokesman said yesterday, "Egyptian President Sadat has stated several times his willingness to sign a peace agreement with Israel."

The spokesman referred to a statement made by Sadat on February 12, 1977, at a press conference with West German Foreign Minister Genscher. At that time, Sadat said, according to yesterday's U.S. statement:

"We are prepared today or tomorrow to sign a peace treaty in Geneva to end the state of war and restore normal relations in the area. On the other hand, Israel must fulfill its commitment regarding Security Council resolution 242. This means Israel's withdrawal from the Arab territories it occupied after 1967. We are prepared today and will be prepared tomorrow to sign the treaty no matter what guarantees Israel demands."

Regarding Jordan's peaceful intentions, the spokesman referred to King Hussein's statement in Washington earlier this year which referred to a "just and lasting peace — one which would enable all the people in the Middle East to divert their energies and resources to build and attain a better future."

Dayan, Begin to thrash out

Jerusalem Post Diplomatic Correspondent

Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan are expected to thrash out the problem of the organization of Israel's informational activities abroad within the next fortnight, before Begin's trip to the U.S.

Immediately after the election, Begin spoke of his intention to set up a Ministry of Information which would initiate and coordinate all informational activities abroad. Since then, he has been silent on the subject.

It is understood that Begin's original idea was to have Shmuel Katz head such a ministry. Katz was subsequently sent to a mission to the U.S. a mission from which he has just returned. Coalition pressures prevented Begin from carrying out this idea, and it is understood that he now favours concentrating this activity in a separate authority in the Prime Minister's Office.

Foreign Ministry officials are opposed to this proposal which, they feel, would deprive the ministry of its most important function. Katz, who is considered a longtime confidant of the Prime Minister, is understood to believe that the Foreign Ministry by its very nature is incapable of mounting the sort of intensive information campaign which is essential to back up Israel's diplomacy. He is reported to feel that the Foreign Ministry was in fact in charge of this function hitherto, and was simply not up to the job.

Katz met Dayan concerning this matter yesterday. It is not yet known what Dayan's views are and whether, and how hard, he would fight to retain information within his own ministry.

Hussein to Cairo

(Continued from page 1) Middle East. Fahd said that the Arabs should actively pursue such a settlement, according to Beirut's "al-Ahram" daily.

The Saudi prince reiterated that his kingdom will not impose an oil embargo against the U.S., even if Carter's peace-making efforts collapse or a new Middle East war breaks out.

Beirut's influential "Al-Anwar" newspaper yesterday said that it will be difficult to avoid a fifth Israel-Arab war unless the U.S. and the Soviet Union agreed to force a settlement in the Middle East. "The situation now is much more different from what it was on the eve of the (1973 Yom Kippur) October war," the paper said. Elsewhere the paper carried reports of mounting Arab military buildup.

These had included armed robberies, looting of shops and thefts of vehicles and cattle, he said. "Even since the announcement by Mozambique that it intended to accuse Rhodesia of aggression at the UN, it has cynically continued with its incursions into Rhodesia," he said.

"Clearly identifiable instances of Mozambique aggression in the past few days include three store break-ins in Melssetter and Mount Selinda areas in which Mozambique troops penetrated up to 10 kms inside Rhodesian territory," he said.

A resolution calling on all states to help Mozambique strengthen its

U.S. would like to hear a clear statement from the new government that Israel will negotiate "territorial withdrawals on all three fronts." The Americans are pointing out that the Labour government had been willing to make this statement to the U.S. in advance of negotiations, and that it remains important for the Begin government to follow suit.

The Americans insist they cannot go to the Arabs in good faith to press them for genuine concessions on their part toward peace without such a clear statement from Israel.

In the advance jockeying before the Begin visit here on July 19-20, the Americans are seeking to convince Israel that Begin should arrive here ready to make such a statement. But they deny that the U.S. has laid down any preliminary conditions to Israel for the Begin visit.

While Begin and Dayan have been saying that they will negotiate without preliminary conditions, they refuse to say that Israel will make any territorial withdrawal from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Reportedly Begin took this line with Ambassador Lewis, insisting that Israel should not be forced to say so in advance of talks. Israel, Begin reportedly said, might be able to convince the Arabs — during the negotiations — that it is in their best interest for Israel to remain in Judea, Samaria and Gaza. The prime minister supposedly made the argument that an Israeli withdrawal and the creation of a Palestinian "entity" there would result in another Lebanese bloodbath.

The Americans believe that this type of logic by Begin is an "insult," because Israel will never be able to convince the Arabs that it should remain in those territories.

What is especially disconcerting to the U.S. is the fact that the Arabs will eventually come to the conclusion that the U.S. can not deliver Israel, and the Arabs will then revert to the military option.

Without a commitment from Israel to withdraw on all three fronts — not necessarily to the 1967 lines but only to withdraw to agreed borders — the U.S. will have a difficult time trying to maintain its diplomatic initiative, a U.S. source says.

"That was the background leading to the State Department policy statement this week," he said. He also said that without such an Israeli pledge the Geneva conference would certainly result in failure, and it is better not to go to Geneva than to have a defeat there.

But this source, as well as others, acknowledged that the U.S. could have conveyed this message to Israel diplomatically without going public.

WASHINGTON. — Vice-President Walter Mondale yesterday assured the President of the Zionist Organization of America, Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik, that the Carter Administration has "every good intention" for Israel, and that America will continue to strengthen Israel militarily.

During a 30-minute meeting at the White House, the Vice-President sought to allay concerns of the ZOA leader, who noted the uneasiness in the American Jewish community over recent administration statements.

At the meeting yesterday, during which White House counsel Robert Lipshutz and ZOA Washington representative Allen Lesser also participated, came only a week before a large delegation of American Jewish leaders is due to meet with President Carter. Like Sternstein, the American Jewish leadership is expected to express concern over the current drift in U.S. policy.

'We mean well,' says Mondale

Jerusalem Post reporter

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Rhodesia: Mozambique raids haven't ceased

SALISBURY. — Rhodesia yesterday accused Mozambique of repeated raids across the border, including at least three since Mozambique charged Rhodesia with the same offences.

Asked to comment on the current UN Security Council debate on Mozambique's allegations of Rhodesian attacks, a government spokesman told reporters that Mozambican soldiers had been responsible for 102 incidents inside Rhodesia this year.

These had included armed robberies, looting of shops and thefts of vehicles and cattle, he said. "Even since the announcement by Mozambique that it intended to accuse Rhodesia of aggression at the UN, it has cynically continued with its incursions into Rhodesia," he said.

"Clearly identifiable instances of Mozambique aggression in the past few days include three store break-ins in Melssetter and Mount Selinda areas in which Mozambique troops penetrated up to 10 kms inside Rhodesian territory," he said.

A resolution calling on all states to help Mozambique strengthen its

defences against Rhodesia was expected to be introduced into the 15-nation Security Council yesterday.

However, Western sources at the UN said yesterday they had "definite problems" with the African-initiated working paper calling for immediate UN assistance to Mozambique.

Western sources were scheduled to meet with African delegates in an attempt to work out a compromise draft acceptable to both sides. They said they would not draw up their own working paper.

The draft under consideration asked for UN financial assistance to repair the damage done by the alleged Rhodesian military incursions. It also called for condemnation of Prime Minister Ian Smith's white minority government and of South Africa for failing to comply with UN sanctions against Rhodesia.

Western sources indicated they were pleased that the working paper made no specific mention of anticipated African demands to cut all postal and telephone communications with Rhodesia. (Reuters, AP).

ECONE, Switzerland (UPI). — Rebel Roman Catholic archbishop Marcel Lefebvre, saying he wants no part of a church "full of thieves, wolves and murderers," openly defied a papal ban yesterday by ordaining new priests at his traditionalist seminary in the Swiss alpine hamlet.

"We don't want to cooperate in the destruction of the church," the 71-year-old French archbishop said in a trembling and grave voice during a 25-minute sermon.

"We want to remain Catholic," he told some 4,000 followers sitting on wooden benches in a field. "We don't want to belong to a church which is full of thieves, wolves and murderers and which makes friends with our enemies."

Lefebvre identified these enemies as "Communists and Freemasons." Lefebvre has 100 seminarians at his "Our Lady of the Fields" seminary and his followers around the world are estimated at several tens of thousands.

Lefebvre, speaking in French with a German interpretation, told the congregation that he recently received a letter "from the Vatican" which charged him with "using my power for my own interests and not for the church."

"I deeply believe that I am acting for the well-being of the church," he said. "On Tuesday I also received a translation of a document written by 185 German theologians who said that they no longer see any difference between (Protestant) pastors and priests," Lefebvre said. "I do not want to be part of such a church," he declared.

Lefebvre rejects reforms instituted by the First and the Second (1963-68) Vatican Councils. He continues to say the Tridentine Mass, which was established by the Council of Trent in 1563 to counteract the Protestant Reformation.

Most of those attending yesterday's ceremony were elderly people. There was total silence during and after the sermon.

Lefebvre ordained 14 priests and 22 sub-deacons. They included 10 Frenchmen, two Britons, one Swiss and one American.

Vatican officials remained silent after Lefebvre's ordinations. But Vatican Radio put out a brief report that the ordinations had taken place "despite his suspension on July 23 last year, and despite repeated exhortations by Pope Paul VI himself to desist from 'this grave act of disobedience'."

who are trying to get pregnant," said Kopito. "Another group is those who cannot take the pill but want to limit family size."

Kopito and two physicians have been working on the device for 11 months. They plan to ask the Food and Drug Administration for approval so as to begin testing its reliability on women who are members of family planning organizations.

If these tests are successful, he said, the device should be on the U.S. market by early 1979. Another version will be available to gynecologists in Europe by the end of this year.

The device measures the stickiness of cervical mucus. Scientists have discovered that, during ovulation, the mucus becomes thin and watery so that the sperm can pass through it easily.

He said the method would cost about the same as birth control pills. The plastic sampling device will sell for about \$10 and a set of two disposable testing plates will cost 25 cents.

Kopito said the device should be acceptable to the Roman Catholic Church, which opposes birth control methods that chemically or physically block conception.

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THE PUBLIC IS CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND

Inter-agency rivalry is environmental problem

By ABYEH RUBINSTEIN Jerusalem Post Reporter



Under the pall of Tel Aviv's Reading power station. (Assaf Kuttin)

"OUR MAIN PROBLEM is not money, or manpower, or technology. It is the overlapping authority and inter-ministerial rivalry. Israel could save close to \$100m. a year by re-using and re-cycling solid waste, for which we have submitted several plans. The main reason they were not approved is the rivalry between the various agencies charged with responsibility for environmental problems."

The speaker is Dr. Uri Marinov, director of the Environmental Protection Service in the Ministry of Interior. Born in Jerusalem 43 years ago, Marinov has a degree in veterinary medicine from Iowa State University. Israel's "Mister Environment" has headed the EPS since it was established by the cabinet in March 1973.

Exactly how had this inter-agency rivalry blocked re-cycling plans?

"We asked the Treasury for IL\$5m. to launch a pilot project in Haifa for the re-cycling of solid waste. It had been worked out by a committee appointed by the director general of the Interior Ministry, and headed by Prof. Gedalya Shelef of the Technion."

"The Treasury approved in principle, and we were scheduled to meet with Budget Division officials to finalize the plan. But a day before the meeting we got a telephone call telling us that it was off. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, among others, had raised an objection. They thought that their ecology unit should handle the job."

"Just like that. There was no discussion, nor was the plan rejected on its merits. No, they haven't done a thing about it since, and that was over a year ago. But they did stop us."

"That is why only 20 per cent of our waste paper is re-cycled, for instance, as compared with 40 per cent in wealthier European countries and the U.S."

In his preface to EPS's third annual report, published last September, Marinov has a sentence reminiscent of the annual reports of the State Comptroller: "To our regret, a substantial portion of the recommendations of the two previous reports have not been implemented."

Some examples?

"Re-cycling of solid waste is one. The second major non-implementation involves more than a recommendation of ours. When the Cabinet established the EPS, it decided that every Ministry should set up an environmental unit. Over four years have elapsed, but only two Ministries have done so. Among those that have not are Agriculture, Health, and Labour — all three of which should be greatly concerned with environmental problems."

"Even the two obedient Ministries did not establish the sort of unit the Cabinet envisaged. The Transport Ministry assigned the job to its Chief Scientist and the Commerce and Industry Ministry gave it to its Chief Engineer. But neither has authority to coordinate or act; neither takes an overall view or has overall responsibility."

"OF COURSE, there have been accomplishments, too," Marinov says. "I think our most important achievement in the last four years has been the development of a much greater environmental consciousness among decision-makers both in the government and the municipalities, particularly with respect to physical planning."

"Each of the country's six district planning and building commissions now has an expert on its staff whose job it is to examine all plans submitted and to consider their effect on the environment. Administratively, he is responsible to the commission; professionally he is responsible to us."

"For example, the Phosphate Works and Ashdod Port have requested permission to expand the port's phosphate-loading capacity. But the town of Ashdod is already covered with phosphate dust. The Southern District Planning and Building Commission will not approve the expansion plan unless it is satisfied that the amount of phosphate dust in the air will be reduced."

"Another example has to do with energy. In the past the Electric Corporation would come and say, 'We want to build a power plant in such and such a place. Take Reading' in the middle of Tel Aviv. All the

planning bodies were against it. But by the time they spoke up, the station was half built, and the government overruled them by getting the Knesset to pass a special law."

"What happens today? The Electric Corporation submitted a plan for a power station near Nahal Hataninim in Hadera. After evaluating it, the National Planning and Building Commission decided that the station should be sited north of Nahal Hadera."

"In order to diversify the country's energy sources the government decided that the plant should be fired with coal rather than oil. We sent the Electric Corporation a detailed questionnaire and they submitted an 'Environmental Impact Statement'. When we complete our evaluation of it, we'll make our recommendation. And they'll have to follow it."

Marinov mentions as another achievement the establishment of a department of environmental quality in four municipalities — Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa, and Ashdod. These departments have two main functions. First, to advise municipal bodies dealing with solid waste disposal, sewage, parks and beaches, and to advise the local planning and building commissions. Secondly, to implement the city programmes to combat air and noise pollution.

These departments were organized in compliance with a Cabinet decision in May 1975. Since all municipalities were asked to set up such departments at the time, the fact that only four did so would seem to place this item in the debit column. Three months ago, Haim Kuberaky, director general of the Interior Ministry summoned the representatives of the non-complying municipalities and reminded them of their obligation in this matter.

WHAT ABOUT the overlapping authority Marinov had mentioned?

"Take air pollution. Four Ministries — Health, Interior, Commerce and Industry, and Transport — each have either legal authority or special units to deal with this problem. Three Ministries — Interior, Health, and Transport — deal with noise. Five Ministries — Health, Interior, Commerce and Industry, Transport, and Agriculture — deal with solid waste."

"So what happens? We work with the Health Ministry for a year to set up air pollution standards, and in the

and they say no. Yes, this actually happened."

"A small committee, which included representatives of the Health, Interior, and Housing Ministries worked a whole year to determine standards for noise made by construction equipment. Then we got a letter from the Health Ministry. They didn't agree. Not to the standard adopted, but to the very concept of fixing a standard."

"Another example is the monitoring of air pollution. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sent us an expert with an international reputation. He worked for a year with various ministries and got them to agree on a programme for air monitoring. Now the Health Ministry, after having agreed to the whole programme, says, 'No, we're against it.'"

"I guess I spend 50 per cent of my time fighting with other government agencies."

Did Marinov think it would be a good idea to have a deputy minister in charge of the quality of life, who would unite in a single framework the functions now scattered among various government agencies and who would bear parliamentary

responsibility for this area? A suggestion to that effect was made by Yitzhak Livni, president of the Council for a beautiful Israel.

"As a civil servant, it's not for me to say whether there should be a deputy minister. But I definitely agree that all government units dealing with environmental quality and land-use planning should be concentrated in a single body. In fact, I have submitted recommendations to that effect."

"For open spaces — nature reserves, national parks, monuments, and archaeological sites — I have suggested the establishment of a separate authority, located in the same ministry as the first. For the built-up areas the enforcing body would be the municipalities, while for the open spaces it would be the authority itself."

"In that way, without adding too much manpower and using existing resources, we would avoid duplication, inconsistency between different departments, and procrastination. Because we have to make use of the local authorities, I think that both of these units should be in the Interior Ministry, which has reacted most favourably to it. So has the Finance Ministry, and so has M.K. Prof. Tosef Rom (who is heading a Likud team on government re-organization)."

THE EPS's third annual report noted that no funds had been allocated for examination of the environmental impact of three major power stations planned for the next 10 years at a cost of IL\$3 billion. Had matters improved since?

"Yes, in the 1977/78 budget, we were granted IL\$300,000 (of the IL\$5m. we asked for) to check the Environmental Impact Statement for the Hadera electric plant. And our operating budget, which had remained static at IL\$2m. annually since our founding, was raised this year to almost IL\$6m. (of IL\$5m. requested)."

What would the EPS have done with a larger budget?

"Mainly educational programmes to increase public awareness of the importance of protecting the environment. And research projects, such as determining standards of sewage effluence, for example. No country in the world has developed standards for the re-use of sewage for irrigation, for industry, for drinking. So we have to do our own research. We use 1,600 million cu.m. of water a year and produce 250 million cu.m. of sewage. If we treat the sewage, we can recover 39.9 per cent of the water. We can't afford not to do it."

In a report issued in October 1974, Marinov had described the then government's handling of environmental problems as "disorganized." It had been a long time since the cabinet had had a serious discussion of the subject. Could he make the same statement today?

"Yes."

Would it, in fact, be correct to say that the only discussion of environmental protection ever held by the former cabinet was at that March 1973 meeting that decided on the establishment of the EPS?

"Yes."

Let sleeping Kongs lie

CINEMA / Ben Hayeem

KING KONG. General release. A Dino de Laurentis remake of the 1933 King Kong. Directed by John Guillermin, with Jessica Lange, Jeff Bridges and Charles Hallahan. U.S.A. 1976

THE GIANT APE Kong appears in rejuvenated form on our recurring dream movie screens, striking his thrash out of our primal past, and making us cover in our seats as he thumps. Italian producer Dino de Laurentis celebrates his move to America with a \$20m. remake of that memorable 1933 monster film, King Kong, which had Fey Wray in the grip of Kong atop the Empire State Building. Now that the twin towers of the New York World Trade Center have been built higher than the Empire State, it follows that a more mechanically elaborate Kong must scale the new man-built heights.

"Just because it's there..." Shades of Hillary Kong! Not surprisingly, the formula seems to work once more, and the gargantuan budget has created an equally impressive giant Kong of foam and plastic who succeeds in drawing our sympathy in his direction. Nature's monster ravishes and is ravished, arousing that dependable collective unconscious of ours which is the part of human experience still buried in our genetic structure.

"The new Kong movie, like the original Beauty and the Beast story, is based on the primitive rites of our ancestors who pacified the gods of nature with human sacrifice, preferably female. This time, the sacrifice is leggy blonde Jessica Lange in full colour, fresh out of a lifeboat in the Pacific. Kong, the nature-god, 40 feet tall, is bluish-black, and hailed by Jessica Lange as "the biggest person in my life." She is the classic dumb blonde, unaware that he is the personification of her male "animus," a resurrected archetype from man's evolutionary

past, symbolizing the power and thrust of the forces of nature.

The film attempts to create a contemporary style. Jessica Lange in the huge plastic hand of Kong, shouts out to him, "I'm a Libra — what's your sign?" but Kong is oblivious to this sophisticated dialogue. In spite of the barbs thrown at him by the screenwriters of this remake, he remains his royal dignity, even as he is boxed up in the giant hold of a super-tanker. He is close to reaching his make-it-happen prison until Jessica speaks soothingly to him from the deck, at which point a Freudian slip sends her plummeting into the hold, only to be rescued by the protective giant hand of Kong.

CAR-WASH. (Allstate, Tel Aviv). Directed by Michael Schultz, screenplay by Joel Schumacher, music by Norman Whitfield, with The Pointer Sisters, Michael Pryor, Antonio Fargas, and Prof. Irwin Corey, U.S.A. 1976.

IN THE four-wheeled society of Los Angeles, you and your car are well-provided for with drive-in restaurants, drive-in banks, drive-in shopping centres, drive-in churches and cinemas; and for freshening up you can treat your car to a drive-in "car-wash."

In "Car-Wash" you and your car will be given the full treatment which includes a hip, soul-deep, rock and roll, shampoo-drying-waxing-polishing job. In attendance are a group of swinging car-washers, a multi-coloured melting pot of black, white, Hispanic, and American Indian workers, all rub-a-dub rubbing your car rhythmically, while you stroll over to the luncheonette for hamburgers and sexual favours at nominal prices.

This is real on the ball, out-of-sight Americana — fun and games, gags and giggles, ups and downs, in and out, very cool, dig-it West-Coast entertainment. Director Michael Schultz and screenwriter Joel Schumacher have created a joyous film full of turned-on maniacs, with non-stop soul-rock music by Norman Whitfield blasting out of radio station KQVS Los Angeles.

Secular Movement claims post-election membership rise

By LEA LEVAVI Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Dozens of people have joined Israel's new Secular Movement since the elections, according to Yitzhak Hasson, the movement's secretary and one of its founders.

"I've been too busy to keep count of how many people have come to us," he said. "But over the past two weeks we got enough new members to open branches in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa."

The movement started a few months ago as an organization of atheists but later appealed in its advertisements to agnostics, humanists, secularists and anyone else who objects to religious coercion or to the religious sector trying to force its philosophy of life on the non-religious.

Hasson explained that the difference between the new movement and some previous organizational attempts along the same lines is that this time the effort would not be limited to protests against specific actions.

"If they close Rehov Haahomer in Bnei Brak on Saturdays, we will help local residents organize so they can drive to the beaches, but that's not all we'll do. We want to offer an alternative to the religious, mystical answers on issues like our right to this country. Our right to be here

comes from the simple fact that people have moved to different parts of the world as the result of historical processes and once they get to wherever they have moved, they have a right to be there."

He and the movement's vice-chairman Noa Tadmor both emphasized that the movement hopes to attract the non-religious of all political persuasions. "The religious philosophy of life and ours are direct opposites," Tadmor said. "Theoretically, you can say that each group should live as it pleases and respect the rights of the other, but in practice the religious are gaining more and more power over things which affect secular people's lives, such as education."

In an interview with The Jerusalem Post a few weeks ago, Zvi Bernstein, secretary of the NRP, asked why secular parents are "hysterical" about the possibility that their children will learn Jewish tradition in school. After all, he said, nobody will force them to believe in it or to practise it at home.

Hasson and Tadmor were asked to comment.

"I don't know whether they're fooling themselves or just us," Hasson said. "But the fact is that they don't intend to present tradition and religion as something neutral. Their hope is that the children will introduce what they have learned at school into the home. We don't want our children to be used as agents in changing our way of life."

"Another thing which we as a movement hope to do is help secular parents crystallize in their own minds exactly why they object, for instance, to lighting Sabbath candles," Tadmor said. "So they will be able to answer their children's questions... When the Rabbinate tells you exactly what time to light the candles, it's no longer a matter of aesthetics."

Tadmor added: "We don't want our children to be given mystical explanations of what we're doing here. We want a secular explanation, not one from heaven."

In addition to attracting new members, the movement plans to distribute a small newspaper and organize a seminar on the secular way of life. Longer range plans include appearances in schools, at youth movements and in other young people's circles.

Exercising with your children

FIGURE IT OUT Judie Oron

CHILDREN love to imitate grown-ups. Why not use this natural desire to encourage your children to make exercising as much a part of their daily routine as brushing their teeth?

Many parents assume that their children are too active to need an exercise programme. Yet recent studies show that children from the age of five up and daily exercise just as badly as their overweight and underfit parents. Ordinary play does not involve enough muscle use to ensure freedom from postural and muscular problems.

Most schools in Israel have some kind of exercise programme, but many exercises are not very good for the children and might actually be harmful. More obvious examples of undesirable exercises are extreme deep-knee bends, which can weaken the muscles and cartilage that support the knee; somersaults which children begin on their heads (they should tuck their chins in and begin closer to the back of the neck); sit-ups with the legs stiff and flat on the floor, which can cause strain in the lower back (it is safer to do sit-ups with the knees bent and relaxed); and, finally, toe touches, which are done with the knees stiff and straight and may cause back problems (never bend from the waist forward and down without bending your knees at least slightly).

There are many exercises which can be done safely by even a five-

year-old. Do the routine given below as a family, and you will not only be doing your children a good turn, you may find your own proportions undergoing a beneficial transformation.

1. Stand with your legs apart and your knees slightly bent. Raise your hands over your head, then bend to touch your hands to the floor between your feet, bending your knees even more as you move downward. Raise your body upward and swing your arms back over your head. Work up slowly to 10 times for children and 20 for adults.

2. Place your hands on the floor, bending your knees and resting on your hands and toes. Stretch your right leg out backwards and rest your toes on the floor. Keep your back hunched upward and your head down. Bring your left leg alongside your right leg. Now bring first the right leg then the left leg back to starting position. Repeat up to 10 times for children, 20 for adults.

3. Lie on your back on a mat with your knees bent, feet together and flat on the floor. Keep your arms alongside your body. Sit up slowly — raise your head first, then your shoulders and arms, and finally your upper torso. Now slowly lower

your upper body back to starting position. Repeat, working up gradually to 10 times for children and 20 for adults.

4. Lie on your back on a mat with your arms stretched out at your sides. Raise your right leg, keeping the knee slightly bent, then bring it across the left leg until your toes touch the floor somewhere in the vicinity of your left hand. Bring the leg back to starting position, and repeat on the other leg. Work up gradually to 10 times for children and 25 for adults.

5. Make a straight line on the floor with black tape or a length of wool and some tape. Use a length of about five metres. Walk the "tightrope" by placing one foot in front of the other, heel first, then the ball of the foot. On the return "journey," slide your right foot forward on the line, then bend your left (back) knee downward until it touches the line. Stand up — it will help to keep your arms outstretched for balance — and bring the left foot forward. Now repeat the process on the other leg. Continue until you have reached the end of the line. Repeat at least three times.

The last exercise in particular is a very enjoyable "game" for children to play. If you introduce all the exercises in the spirit of play, your children will gain a positive attitude toward exercise, without your having to "proselytize" when it is too late.

HAIFA

ART NOTES

Ephraim Harris

DAVID MAESTRO. Twin photographs in two panels, presenting the same subject from two different angles, one shot immediately after the other. He chooses, for example, a bus station with the same woman at two adjacent terminals, or two sections of a ship's deck from a single viewpoint. The lake and rural photographs excel in their picturesque passivity. Two especially memorable items are the man shot three times in the same doorway and the outside of a junk shop with two separate groups of people reflected in the same mirror.

These experiments are intended to convey time and the passing scene as completely and briefly as possible through only two photographic stills. There are instances which undoubtedly refer to contemporary art styles, apart from the hint of Man Ray's "Lap" in the low-lying cloud resting on a hill. For example, a linear abstraction of a ship's duck-board and ribbed deck, the linearity reinforced by the ribs' shadows. (Churchill Auditorium, Technion.)

FENFRIENDS

MARTTI KOPONEN (16), of Nakkimaja 10, 75120 Piekasalmi 12, Finland, would like to correspond with young Israelis in order to learn more about our country.

JOSE PALETH (24), of Ayavana P.O. Kallorokk, Kerala, India, is student who would like to correspond with young Israelis.

Fly the "Boomerang Flight" to Australia and back via S.A.A.



The fascinating feature about the boomerang is its "flight plan." Any Australian worth his salt will demonstrate one for you next time you're there. Watch how it flies. South African Airways has its own fascinating "Boomerang" flight plan to get you to Australia and, like the boomerang, back.

We have three departures each week in conjunction with El Al from Tel Aviv to Johannesburg. This means that you can get to your destination speedily without undue delay, or leisurely at your pleasure. If you want to be in Hong Kong, too, you can fly back to Israel, boomerang style, via this destination, and so get the best of both worlds. Fly the S.A.A. "Boomerang" flight to Australia and back. It's a flight plan you'll love.

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Jerusalem Municipality

Department of Tourism

The Jerusalem City Museum

(The Citadel — David's Tower)

Exhibitions: Hexagonal Hall: The Jerusalem Citadel — Its History. Phasel Tower: Jerusalem Ancient Maps and Views. Open Daily 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Friday 9.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. (For Saturdays and Holidays, buy tickets in advance) Sound and Light Show: "Stone in David's Tower" Every Evening 8.45 p.m. (except Fridays and holiday eves) Tickets at Citadel box office

In commemoration of the 10th Anniversary of the Reunification of Jerusalem and the 5th Anniversary of the Center for Conservative Judaism in Jerusalem you are invited to the 1st Israel performance of a concert of Jewish liturgical, classical and folk music presented by

The Beth Abraham Youth Chorale

of Dayton, Ohio Motza'ei Shabbat (July 2, 1977) at 9.00 p.m. the Synagogue of the Centre 4 Agon Street, Jerusalem Donation IL\$.

MUNICIPALITY OF RAMALLAH

TENDER

1. Qualified contractors are hereby invited to bid for the supply and erection of mechanical and electrical equipment at the Ramallah sewage treatment plant and pumping stations.
 2. Documents of the tender are available in the engineer's office at the Municipality of Ramallah during working hours, except Sundays and Fridays.
 3. Tender must be submitted in a sealed envelope and addressed to the Municipality of Ramallah, P.O. 3, Ramallah, not later than Thursday, July 21, 1977.
 4. The Municipality does not undertake to accept the lowest bid.
- KARIM KHALAF MAYOR OF RAMALLAH

LIMONTA The new stain resistant wall covering. The great kitchen gift. **ROBEX**

The Collector Antique Jewish Art Rare Jewels

Neviot Diving Centre

75 Kms. South of Eilat on the coast of the Red Sea

Announces the opening of Diving Courses on:

July 17; August 7, 21, September 9

Diving Safaris to Ras Abu Galum on:

July 10; August 14; September 11; October 9

Diving Safaris to Ras Muhammed on:

July 24; August 28; September 25, October 23

Details and Registration: Neviot Diving Centre, Doar Eilat, Tel. 089-6191, 3667.

AVIV STOCKS

Volume down to IL48m.

TEL AVIV. — The volume of trading continued to fall yesterday, as prices continued to be irregular, with a tendency to fall, and with most prices turning highly "selective," indicating only that they thought they were good long-term investments. However, they were only ready to do so at falling prices.

In any case, the frenetic scenes of today, when turnover stood at 20m., were not apparent yesterday, and volume, although high at 20m., showed a continuation of the upward tendency. Trading in the tables was lively, itself a figure which seems to indicate that this is the boom (the IL20m. peak is twice as much as the entire trading in the early 1970s) has not yet run its course.

Index-linked bonds were, on the whole, stable, although 6.5 per cent index-linked showed a tendency to go up by two or three points on small moves. This is an indication that the market is beginning to force the issue.

Financials, which led the wild ride upwards earlier in the week, were fairly steady yesterday. The market leader was Bank Leumi (2), which opened at 388 and ended at 390. It was followed by Bank Hapoalim (1), which opened at 388 and ended at 390. Bank Leumi (2) was followed by Bank Hapoalim (1), which opened at 388 and ended at 390.

OLIGAR-RELATED	
Bank Leumi	388.00
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Bank Leumi (2)	388.00
Bank Hapoalim (1)	388.00

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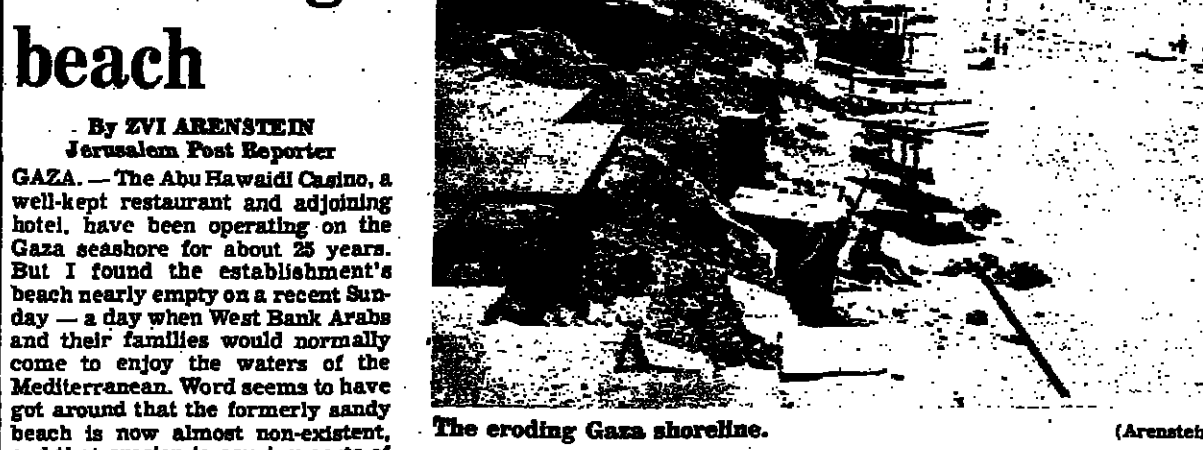
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Gaza's crumbling beach



The eroding Gaza shoreline.

GAZA. — The Abu Hawaidi Casino, a well-kept restaurant and adjoining hotel, have been operating on the Gaza seashore for about 25 years. But I found the establishment's beach nearly empty on a recent Sunday — a day when West Bank Arabs and their families would normally come to enjoy the waters of the Mediterranean. Word seems to have got around that the formerly sandy beach is now almost non-existent, and that erosion is causing parts of the casino to slide into the sea.

The engineers told us that unless we take some sort of action by this winter, our restaurant and hotel are in danger of being destroyed.

Worried about the future of their businesses, Abu Hawaidi along with the owner of the Gaza Restaurant, Abd El Muttalib El Hassel, commissioned the Civil and Marine Engineering Company of Haifa to study the causes of the problem. The cost of the report, about IL5,000, was borne by them.

The firm places blame for the erosion on two jetties built by the Military Government in 1972 and 1973 to facilitate the unloading of ships bringing cement into the Gaza Port. The port is located about 500 metres to the south of the eroding beach. According to the study, a ship

which was wrecked between the two jetties in 1975 and still remains there is aiding the process.

"Before construction of the jetties, the central coast of Gaza had sandy beaches of a fairly uniform width — 20 to 40 metres in the summer and slightly less in the winter. Since the jetties are there, the normal flow of water has been interrupted, causing beach accretion updrift (to the south) and erosion downdrift (to the north)," the report says.

It adds that the currents are pulling sand out into the sea, a natural phenomenon, but that, because of the jetties, the sand is not being replaced, as is usually the case.

"The almost total disappearance of sand in this area is laying bare rocky beaches and allows waves to attack directly the structures located along the beach and undermine them," it says.

The Haifa firm offers the businessmen a number of alternatives. The best one would be to build twin offshore breakwaters, similar to the ones which protect the Tel Aviv coast, located parallel to the shoreline and about 200 metres

into the sea. The firm places a price tag of about IL7m. on such a large-scale restoration project.

Where will the money come from? The businessmen expect the Military Government to bear the cost because, in their opinion, the jetties were built without adequate studies to determine what effect they would have on the surrounding beaches. The two men have presented a copy of the report to the Gaza municipality and were promised that the issue would be raised with the Military Government.

Sources in the Military Government say that the cost should be split between the municipality, the businessmen and the military. They also say that a number of other solutions are being studied.

Wherever the money is to come from, a solution must be found quickly. Otherwise the Gaza seashore, which is currently the main beach available to West Bank and Gaza residents as well as to UN and UNRWA personnel in the area, will become littered with the rubble of the buildings which now tower above it.

Lord Harmer, who is on the board of directors of both companies, made his statement in answer to a question, if the London branch of Halverson would not find the going hard in London due to Arab pressure.

"Not only is this not so," he said, "but in our age and generation we often witness the offspring outdistancing the founder. I hope this proves so in this case."

The London branch, founded in 1973, ran up a deficit of £100,000 in its first two years of operation; in 1976 it made a profit of £2,791, leaving a deficit of £97,000.

Herz Lebanon, chairman of the board of both companies, noted that the deficit was only a technical one, due to the stringent English regulations of building up a considerable reserve to protect the company's clients.

Lord Nicholls, as well as Mr. Lebanon, were re-elected to the board of directors earlier this week, as were Jamil Shalhoub, an Arab Christian from Haifa, and Sheikh Labib Abu Rukun, a Druse from the Galilee, and several others, all Jewish.

The companies have a paid up capital of IL19.8m., and Lebanon said the board was weighing the possibility of floating an issue on the stock market to raise more working capital in order to expand the business of the companies.

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Step forward in plastic sheeting production

By JOSEPH MORGENSTERN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Israeli inventiveness has resulted in the development of a totally new structural plastic sheeting material trade-named QUALEX. Unique in appearance because of its double-faced sheeting construction, Qualex is made of polycarbonate thermoplastic.

The producer of the material is Poligal, an enterprise of Kibbutz Ramat Hashofet near Megiddo. The material was developed jointly with Su-Keet Industries of Tel Aviv. Su-Keet, founded some 20 years by Aharon Eden, specializes in the formulation of plastic materials. It was Eden who convinced the Makhteshim Beersheba factory to enter into the production of polycarbonate.

Eden also worked closely with the Dutch-based General Electric Company in developing an appropriate formulation of the polycarbonate plastic which would be suitable for extrusion at Poligal's manufacturing plant.

Su-Keet has entered into a commercial marriage of convenience with Ramat Hashofet and will act as exclusive sales agent for the production of the Poligal plant. Neither the product nor the production techniques have been patented, since they came under the category of proprietary know-how. Initial production and sales plans call for a first-year output of 1,000 tons.

The development of Qualex in effect introduces a new dimension into the plastics industry. The nature of the plastic, its formulation, and the novel method of the construction of the sheet, give the finished product some very unusual qualities. Its transmission of light is 90 per cent that of conventional glass. For all practical purposes it is unbreakable.

Qualex opens up a new area in the use of plastic materials for structural purposes. It also gives a 40 per cent improvement in insulation over solid glass and PVC sheets. In addition, Qualex stands up well under all weather conditions.

The newness of the Qualex reinforced sheeting is such that neither the producers nor the distributors can predict the whole range of end-product applications. One obvious

use would be as a replacement for glass partitions in schools and offices. The excellent insulation properties qualify the sheeting as a conservator of energy.

Experiments are now being carried out to determine Qualex's suitability for use in solar energy collectors. The material can be conveniently moulded under heat and pressure. There is no difficulty in shaping it into shower stalls or light fixtures.

Founding Qualex with a hammer will not shatter it. "The unusual qualities of Qualex could make it a competitor to conventional PVC," Eden said.

Su-Keet intends the local marketplace to serve as a testing ground for its new product. "Our production plans call for a large-scale export programme, both in sheet form and in locally produced materials using Qualex. At this time, the most promising products appear to be solar heat collectors, greenhouses and modular building systems," Eden said.

The export P.O.B. price of Qualex is \$7-\$10 per square metre, depending on the thickness.

One of the early applications of polycarbonate sheeting was in space helmets. In the form of Qualex, the material seems to have come down to earth now.

The new rate, effective as of last Sunday, was officially announced (Tuesday) at the Histadrut Trade Union Department's weekly meeting, where it was approved. It comes after Kupa Holim raised the rates at its rest homes by 30 per cent.

The Histadrut Trade Union Department's approval applies only to Histadrut employees. It is customary, however, that these agreements are adopted by the Manufacturers' Association.

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London financiers stand up to boycott

By MACABEE DEAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Financial circles in the City of London are truly circumspect in all economic matters; they will never give in to any pressure, such as the Arab boycott, Lord Harmer Nicholls Bt., J.P., of Peterborough, said this week at a luncheon at which the balance sheets for 1976 of the Yardenia and Halverson insurance companies were presented. The consolidated balance sheet of the two companies, which are about the same financial size, stood at IL390m. at the end of 1976 (a 58 per cent increase over the previous year) with profits standing at IL5.6m. (compared to IL3.2m. in 1975).

Lord Harmer, who is on the board of directors of both companies, made his statement in answer to a question, if the London branch of Halverson would not find the going hard in London due to Arab pressure.

"Not only is this not so," he said, "but in our age and generation we often witness the offspring outdistancing the founder. I hope this proves so in this case."

The London branch, founded in 1973, ran up a deficit of £100,000 in its first two years of operation; in 1976 it made a profit of £2,791, leaving a deficit of £97,000.

Herz Lebanon, chairman of the board of both companies, noted that the deficit was only a technical one, due to the stringent English regulations of building up a considerable reserve to protect the company's clients.

Lord Nicholls, as well as Mr. Lebanon, were re-elected to the board of directors earlier this week, as were Jamil Shalhoub, an Arab Christian from Haifa, and Sheikh Labib Abu Rukun, a Druse from the Galilee, and several others, all Jewish.

The companies have a paid up capital of IL19.8m., and Lebanon said the board was weighing the possibility of floating an issue on the stock market to raise more working capital in order to expand the business of the companies.

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French law stymies Arabs

PARIS (AP). — A new French law sympathetic to Israel has stymied French firms trying to negotiate deals with Arab countries, informed sources said on Monday.

The law says any person or firm contributing to the disruption of the economy of any country for religious or racial reasons will face fines and possibly prison sentences.

The sources said the French body that finances most export deals feels it helps French firms export to Arab countries it is guilty of complicity in the Arab boycott of Israel.

As a result the body has not dealt with new dossiers since the law came into effect three weeks ago, preferring to wait until the extent to which it might be liable is made clearer by the government.

The sources added that French firms are losing Arab orders to France's competitors as a result of the confusion over the law, and that a clarifying government directive is expected shortly.

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Higher shipping rates discussed

HAIFA. — The Shippers Council has started negotiations with the shipping conferences on the increase of freight rates to go into force next month.

The negotiations started with the French line, which is run jointly by the French C.N.F. Company and Zim. The line's representative proposed a 15 per cent increase on both imports and exports, but Shipping Council director Arieh Meholul suggested a much smaller rise. He noted that in view of Israel's economic difficulties, a steep rise in freight charges would further reduce exports and at the same time make the Cal Air Freight company more competitive. In the long run the shipping companies would not gain by the higher rates, he said.

The talks with the French delegation were postponed till Sunday. During the next fortnight delegations from the other conferences serving Israel will come here for negotiations.

Meholul noted that the country's maritime freight bill now comes to IL5b. annually, and every percentage point of increase would amount to considerable sums. For this reason he expected the negotiations to be "quite difficult."

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Schools under examination

THE PUBLIC disclosure, by Charlie Biton MK, of a black market in stolen matriculation exams warrants immediate police action, as well as the full investigation pledged by Education Minister Zevulun Hammer. But the exposure of this long-suspected racket should not divert the attention of the public from the real issues involved.

The inordinate emphasis on examination in our school system has long been under fire. Many students, and some teachers, have been asking aloud whether the tests are a true measure of scholarship, whether preparing for them is any contribution to learning — and whether the curriculum itself has any relevance to the nation's current needs and future tasks.

In a quieter way the same questions came to light with the publication this week of the Minkowich report on achievement in elementary schools, where the demands of formal education begin. That solid study deserves rather more attention than a passing scandal.

The report has been cited by interested parties to prove that state-religious education is inferior to state education, that integration has at best no effect on school achievements — or other prefabricated conclusions awaiting a statistical foundation.

It is true that the research, sponsored jointly by the Education Ministry and the Hebrew University, gives evidence for those claims. It indicates a lower average level of achievement for religious school students than for secular schools on all subjects tested except Bible. The finding might give pause to those who, like Mr. Hammer, believe more "Jewish content" in the schools is something close to a panacea.

What is it, however, that accounts for the relative inferiority of the state-religious schools? The fact that these schools spend fewer classroom hours on secular subjects may be part of the explanation. But the religious school students also achieved lower grades in language skills, for which class hours are equal in both systems. More pertinent is the higher percentage of "disadvantaged" students (*l'mnei tipuach*), mostly sons and daughters of the Oriental community, in the religious schools.

But it is not just a matter of the composition of the student body. Most schools with a majority of disadvantaged pupils suffer from poorer equipment (or lack of training in its use), poorer services (such as psychological counselling), and less experienced teachers. Especially hard-hit are schools in development towns — despite Ministry policy to reinforce enrichment programmes.

The field study of the Minkowich team was done in May 1973, before the Ministry's introduction of the Welfare Project, which now gives priority to formal and informal education programmes in 47 disadvantaged settlements and neighbourhoods. It remains to be seen whether the controversial project has made a significant change. But at least the new research offers a precedent in assessing extensive programmes in terms other than the number of millions invested.

As for integration of students from Oriental and Occidental backgrounds, it seems from the report to have had neither the expected positive nor the feared negative effect on scholastic achievement. To be successful on the academic level, integration evidently needs to be supplemented by special programmes designed to enrich classroom experience, and these have not been widely available.

The fact is, however, that most elementary schools in the country are still homogeneous neighbourhood schools. There have been local initiatives in integration which, as the report notes, are supported by the majority of teachers. But the Ministry has yet to adopt a firm policy in the matter.

Given the findings of the report, the Ministry will also have to deal with the relatively poor performance of even "good" students. This may necessitate some thorough overhaul of the curriculum. As the report points out, today's curriculum is probably too cluttered up and too complex for the good of both students and teachers.

The Minkowich report (nearly 500 pages long) points up problems too deep to be solved by "more hours" of any one subject, and it is too serious a document to be used for arguments along political or factional lines. It requires a response worthy of the challenge, first and foremost from the Ministry of Education under its new leadership.

AS THE Democratic Movement for Change enters a crucial week of discussions on whether or not to join the Begin government, it would do well to keep in mind the example of the National Religious Party.

The NRP, as its younger activists would be the first to admit, was always bedevilled by the glaring gap between its claim that it represented the high principles of Orthodoxy and its record of selling out to the senior Mapai, or Labour, partner in coalition talks.

Coalition negotiations between Labour and the NRP always began on a high ideological note and over a period of weeks ended in low-grade haggling over Cabinet seats, deputy ministerial posts, special budgetary subventions, kashrut inspectors to Argentina and positions on remote religious councils.

And the NRP's cheapened image resulted in a situation in which only half the votes of the religious population. It also alienated a growing number of potential younger religious voters, and sowed the seeds of the revolt of the younger elements in the party that might yet lead to its rejuvenation.

What prevented the NRP from dwindling to a minuscule faction, however, was the fact that in addition to being a political party it was, in the standard Israeli pattern, an important centre of congregation of economic, local and bureaucratic interests.

To return to the DMC, there are many cogent arguments that can be made for and against its joining the Begin government. What the party leadership should be intensely aware of, however, is the danger to the continued existence of the DMC which attaches to its joining on the cheap.

THE DMC differs from the NRP in two important respects. Its rank and file is, by and large at the same time much more idealistic and

THE CLAIM is often made that rank and file opinion within the Democratic Movement for Change is overwhelmingly in favour of joining the government. This, of course, is a mere assertion, impressionistic at best, tendentious at worst. Interestingly, those who argue this way have not (as far as can be ascertained from the press) called for a referendum to discover what the majority of members actually think on this issue.

What would seem to be well established is that the great majority of the votes won by the DMC in the recent Knesset elections came from the centre and centre-left. It has been estimated that only two or three seats, at most, came from potential Likud voters, and that the rest were produced by the defection of voters from the Labour Alignment, the Independent Liberal Party and the Civil Rights Movement.

Is it possible that such a constituency is really eager to strengthen — almost unconditionally — a government headed by Menachem Begin and Ezer Weizman? The fact is that the DMC performed well in the Histadrut elections after breaking off coalition talks.

The fate of the ILP, now almost wiped off the political map, shows what can befall a centre party which becomes identified with an unpopular coalition in which it exercises no real influence. The creditable performance of party members in secondary ministerial posts provides no safeguard against disaster.

Tourism became a major industry under Moshe Kol, but his party received no credit for it with the voters. The ILP's failure to join the government — and for its failure to join the DMC and the CRM in a strong centre bloc. For a new centre party with left-centre support to enter a right

The DMC and the government — two views

Joining in might be right, if...

YOSEF GOELL advises the DMC to make its entry into the government conditional on the Likud's acceptance of some of

those domestic policy demands which formed the core of the original programme of the new party.

sophisticated than the NRP's, and it cannot rely on the support of an interest group to keep it alive if the idealism of its members and potential voters is undermined.

The point is that the registered membership of 35,000, an impressive achievement for the incredibly short period in which the DMC was organized, can vanish in a twinkling.

Why belabour the point? Because of the unmistakable impression, conveyed by reports of Mr. Begin's latest concessions to Prof. Yadin, that what is being attempted is a repetition of the Labour Party's traditional negotiating tactics vis-à-vis the NRP.

According to these reports, the Prime Minister is offering the DMC a fourth seat in the Cabinet; assuring Prof. Yadin that he will be Acting Prime Minister during Mr. Begin's trips abroad; and giving the DMC the right to speak out, and possibly even to vote, against the government in which it will participate, on condition that this does not affect the government's majority.

There is a certain impression of déjà vu about these concessions, whose equivalents were so often used by Labour to provide the final tug for the NRP (and the Independent Liberals). If the DMC decides to bite, it will be labelling itself an accidentally glorified ILP, and its sup-

porters would be fully justified in asking why they did not vote for the ILP in the first place.

The six weeks that have passed since the election would seem to indicate that there is little validity to the argument that the DMC should enter the government for the purpose of saving Mr. Begin from himself. The interplay of personalities in Mr. Begin's Cabinet is such that it is quite clear that the Prime Minister will dominate it completely on foreign policy matters.

In fact, the saving grace of the Begin Cabinet, even for the opponents of Mr. Begin's views, is that Israel finally has a government that is clear about its foreign policy aims.

The only imaginable way for the DMC to make a dent in this impression of Mr. Begin's monopoly of power would be to obtain a credible promise from the Liberals in the Cabinet that if it comes to the crunch they will make common cause with the DMC, and possibly one or two other Ministers, in order to be a moderating influence on the Prime Minister. There is at present absolutely no indication that such a commitment is in any way attainable.

THIS IS NOT to argue that the DMC should not join the government on any condition, only that it would be

courting political debilitation if it joined under any unwarranted illusion.

In the earlier round of coalition talks, the DMC negotiators appear to have adopted a dead-end strategy, by choosing to stake everything on the chance of reaching an agreement on the foreign policy issues. On some points — such as opposition to West Bank concessions in the absence of peace, or to the creation of an independent Palestine — the DMC and the Likud are in agreement (as is the majority of the Alignment). On other immediate issues, such as settlement in the West Bank outside the Allon Plan areas, the two parties are at loggerheads.

But the settlement issue should not necessarily be the one to keep the DMC out of the government. Mr. Begin's and Gush Emunim's plans for the immediate addition of Kadums in the West Bank will most probably be stopped by Mr. Carter. In the unlikely event that the American President does not cast a clear-cut veto on such symbolic actions, which in themselves will have little effect on Israel's real political and military situation, why should the DMC get all hot and bothered?

Perhaps the best unsolicited advice that can be given to the DMC is that it go back to square one. The new party started off by

emphasizing the need for solutions to long-term domestic problems, even in the context of a seemingly insoluble foreign policy situation. This was coupled with a two-stage strategy. In the first months of the DMC's existence, Prof. Yadin spoke of aiming for 10-15 seats in the Knesset, which would be used as leverage for bringing about electoral reform. This in turn was to make possible a second stage push for higher political status.

Alongway in the campaign, pre-election polls which spoke of a possible 25-30 seats went to the DMC's head. But the fact is that the DMC won just 15 seats and in a configuration which made it possible for the Likud to form a government without it.

IF THERE IS any validity to the continued existence of the DMC as a fresh political party, it lies specifically in a return to this two-stage strategy. A 15-man faction cannot expect to dictate to a government which has a narrow majority without it. It can realistically try to win concessions on one or two points which it considers central to its political existence.

In the present case, considering the DMC's electorate, it would seem reasonable for the DMC to make its entry into the coalition conditional on a Likud commitment to its concept of electoral reform, and on a reversal of some of the more egregious concessions on religious issues made to Agudat Yisrael.

It is not at all obvious that Mr. Begin would agree to such conditions. If he does not, then it should be a clear sign to the DMC that the Prime Minister will indeed persist in treating them in the government as the most junior of partners. That perception was what led Prof. Yadin, only a fortnight ago, to recommend calling off the negotiations with the Likud.

Here there is room for diplomatic manoeuvre, for weighing and measuring choices, for firmness and moderation, for a dialogue with friend and foe. There, hands are tied, options closed.

THE ELECTORAL strategy of the DMC was devised so as to make possible entry into a coalition with the Alignment on a platform of domestic reform. It also left the door open to a coalition with the Likud on the assumption that the DMC would hold the parliamentary balance and thus could ensure a moderate line in foreign policy.

The election results closed both of these options. If the DMC now enters the government it will be joining a coalition led by Begin-Weizman-Dayan and fully committed to a Greater Israel policy. Such a government may eventually negotiate a territorial compromise on the West Bank, but this would be its last choice when all has failed, and American-Bovian pressure has become overwhelming.

In the meantime we are likely to witness a confrontation with Washington, a cut-down (if not a cut-off) of aid, and as a result a period of profound crisis. Alternatively there will be an attempt (perhaps successful) to trade off large areas in the Golan and Sinai in order to gain another year or two of quiet without reference to the West Bank.

And, throughout, the DMC will be bound by the coalition partnership silence, and it may even be induced by the logic of the situation to defend policies diametrically opposed to its platform. The case for what is often called "same Zionism" would have to be made by the truncated and discredited Alignment alone.

The opportunity to educate the public in the realities of our situation and in the nature of Zionism at its best would be lost.

THE DMC is now at a cross-roads. It can remain true to its principles, create an honest and bold opposition, support the government when it is right and attack it when it is wrong, thus setting an example of civic responsibility. An opposition of fifty-six can keep the government under constant pressure, forcing it to calculate its actions with care and to justify them in open debate.

In this role the DMC can consolidate itself and grow as the undisputed centre party, more democratic than Labour, saner than the Likud.

Or else the DMC can exchange its ideological commitment for a minor role in a government which totally rejects its philosophy. It would be a sad ending for a movement which was founded less than a year ago to restore credibility to our political system, to clean out the Augean stables of Israeli public life. And it would be a sad day for a country desperately in need of firm leadership as Israel.

The author is senior lecturer in the Department of Eastern Studies in the Institute of Contemporary Jewry at the Hebrew University. He is a member of the DMC.

Joining in would be wrong

JONATHAN FRANKEL argues that by entering the Begin government the DMC would be selling its foreign policy com-

mitments for a minor role in a coalition which totally rejects the DMC philosophy.

wing-clerical coalition might well constitute an act of political suicide.

ANOTHER frequent argument states that a party committed to "change" will lose credibility if it does not join the government. Only with ministerial power in its grasp, it is said, can the party push through the reforms which it advocates.

But this, again, is a thesis which cuts both ways. Unless, for example, the party can force through its electoral reform more or less unchanged it will suffer a grievous loss of credibility. Given the known stand of the two religious parties, both coalition and preferred partners, the DMC's concept of electoral reform would seem to have little chance of becoming law in any but the most enfeebled form.

Yet, it is also argued, the DMC could work within the coalition so as to moderate government positions, and together with the Liberals in the Likud it might even force through a modified foreign policy. Perhaps the Liberals and the DMC could even join up to form a powerful centre bloc, thus isolating Herut on the right?

This is certainly a possibility, but not on the fact of it, a very real possibility. The Liberals have shown themselves in the past to be completely unwilling to break with Herut even on issues of crucial national in-

terest. In August 1970 — acting against their own judgment — they followed Menachem Begin out of the National Unity Government when the Likud leader refused to accept the U.S. cease-fire initiative with its mention of Security Council Resolution 242. In the recent Dayan affair the same tale of self-abnegation repeated itself.

Why should the Liberals risk their historic alliance now when it has finally proved its electoral effectiveness? And, again, why should we assume that the DMC will be the one to exert all the influence?

It is a known fact that there is a minority within the DMC leadership which is very close to the Likud on crucial foreign policy issues, and these members necessarily remain loyal to DMC principles once they are in the government? Would they be ready to follow Yigael Yadin into the wilderness in the event of a crisis over the Geneva talks and territorial compromise?

DESPITE all the complex manoeuvring, there is only one real issue facing the DMC.

In its platform and in the election campaign the movement took a clear stand on foreign policy. It came out for a "democratic and Jewish" state; for a strategy based on the River Jordan as a security frontier; and against a third, a

Palestinian, state on the West Bank. These formulae meant that the DMC accepted the logic (though not necessarily the details) of the Allon Plan. In the great debate which has divided Zionist thinking since 1967 (or even since 1937), the DMC openly sided with the Chaim Weizmann-David Ben-Gurion school of thought, against that of Jabotinsky and Begin. Their doctrines set the two schools wide apart.

One school believes that Israel should not willingly weigh itself down permanently with the burden of an additional Arab minority of close to one million. The other insists that what counts is the restoration of historical territory regardless of ethnic or any other utilitarian considerations.

One side views the continued pacification of a huge and hostile population as a cancer eating away at the body politic, gradually but relentlessly. The other sees in the "redemption" of these areas a life-giving force, a source of moral strength.

Here an attempt is made to separate the legitimate requirements of security and self-defence from territorial expansion for its own sake. There this demarcation line is deliberately blurred, and security borders are identified automatically with political frontiers.

READERS' LETTERS

THE FEAR OF LIKUD

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, I refer to Meir Merhav's prediction of doom in the wake of Likud's election victory, as expressed in his Viewpoint "A terrifying credibility" (June 18). I certainly hope events will eventually prove him and his predictions wrong.

Prior to the Likud's victory, the fears he mentions were in the other camp. Thousands of good, liberal, progressive Israelis, many of them ardent supporters of the historical Mapai and the Labour parties, didn't sleep at night because of their fears of the consequences of the Labour Government policy. A leadership that had no answer to Arab war threats; a leadership that believed in a moderate Sadat; a leadership that knew that giving up Judea and Samaria would jeopardise the security of the country; a leadership that manoeuvred between refusal and agreement to attend the Geneva conference and hoped that Europe and the U.S. would then stand by Israel; a leadership that was not sure of itself; a leadership that tried vainly for 10 years to persuade Hussein to accept the Allon Plan; a leadership that (to quote Mr. Merhav) raised "proto-imperial attitudes" and "denuded our society of its essential values" — that was the leadership that instilled so much fear, uneasiness and anxiety that the majority of Israelis now look to the Likud for leadership.

What is the "terrifying credibility" that puts fear into Mr. Merhav? Mr. Begin's virtues, as quoted from his article: He is serious, sincere, decent, devoted, gallant, generous, consistent, courageous. "Begin is a man of principle and honour." But there are also some harsh comments. A "basic irrationality of world view, of conception of Zionism, of perception of reality and of concrete political position."

Mr. Begin had no possibility to prove his abilities during the past 29 years. But we can draw conclusions from his past. In the forties, towards the end of World War II, it was Mr. Begin who insisted on the impending end of the British Empire. It is to his credit that he foresaw that the fight of the Jewish underground had a fair chance of success, that he anticipated a joining of forces of the Hagana, the Irgun and the Stern Group for a common assault against British occupation, that, as a member of the Government of National Unity during the Six Day War, and as "a man of principle and honour," he agreed to the govern-

ment consensus not to attack Jordan, (although that meant forgoing Jerusalem) unless Israel was attacked first.

I won't get into Mr. Merhav's fears (there are so many...), with regard to religious influence on the Government. I am not religious, and I am not afraid.

Mr. Merhav then asks "what kind of an Israel can we expect from the Likud?" Perhaps a lesson can be learnt from the causes for the decline and fall of Labour. And he continues: "an Israel which stands for continued oppression of another people... will become corrupt from within."

Mr. Merhav thus shifts the corruption that is present everywhere now to a future date, for the convenience of his arguments against the Likud. It is not the "oppression" that Mr. Merhav foresees which will create corruption. The corruption is here now, created by the manipulations of the Labour Government which considered that the State of Israel belonged to it. No "oppression" can create the kind of corruption we now have.

The author's prophetic doom-day views cannot change the fact that the Likud Government carries with it the only possibility of a change for the better, on the domestic front as well as in foreign policy.

MAX M. RIEBENFELD
Tel Aviv.

POSTSCRIPTS

JERUSALEM had quite an unexpected "happening" last Saturday evening.

A leading firm of furniture importers had advertised a six-day sale of shop-soiled goods, starting at 7.35 p.m., immediately after the Sabbath at its warehouse on the outskirts of the city. By 7.35 a kind of treasure-hunt was also in progress with one car after another wending its way into unknown territory and looking for clues to the location of the sale.

By 7.45 the crowds outside the warehouse were so large that only small groups of curious shoppers were allowed in at a time. Inside, the place was bedlam. Small children were trying out the beds and couches. Cupboards were being opened and inspected. Vain efforts were being made to measure bookshelves (the floor was of concrete, so that one couldn't use the standard Israeli rule-of-thumb of counting tiles). Lamp-shades, raffia bread-

baskets and crockery, were being snapped up.

Not all the visitors understood the term "cash and carry" and were dismayed to find that they were expected to take their purchases with them or pay extra for the transport.

"You obviously haven't done a remonte in the last ten years" we heard a salesman say to an open-mouthed would-be customer. But even for those who didn't buy anything in the fray it turned out to be a most unusual Saturday evening's entertainment. F.D.

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